

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shoji AIHARA et al. **Mail Stop PCT**  
Appl. No: : Not Yet Assigned PCT Branch  
I. A. Filed : November 4, 2004  
(U.S. National Phase of PCT/JP2004/016312)  
For : BAND SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE INSTALLATION METHOD IN BAND  
SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE DRIVING METHOD, AND CUTTING  
METHOD


**CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop PCT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the right of priority granted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119 and 365 based upon Japanese Application No. 2003-376790, filed November 6, 2003, 2004-139690, filed May 10, 2004 and 2004-147415, filed May 18, 2004. The International Bureau already should have sent a certified copy of the Japanese applications to the United States designated office. If the certified copy has not arrived, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shoji AIHARA et al.

  
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May 5, 2006  
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